

PERSONS RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT, MAY, 1948.

This bulletin has been prepared from detailed tabulations, made available by the Commonwealth Statistician, of unemployed persons in Queensland who were in receipt of Commonwealth unemployment benefit at the end of May, 1948. The information covers only those persons actually in receipt of unemployment benefit, no account being taken of those whose applications for benefit were awaiting consideration or those who did not apply for benefit. The figures given, therefore, are only a part of total unemployment, although the proportions due to the various causes and in the various industries are broadly applicable to the total. Persons receiving sickness or special benefits are also excluded. Details for districts by causes and industries in which last employed are given in the attached tables.

Comparison with Previous Months.

May 1948 figures of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit were 1,559 males and 89 females, the total of 1,648 being 2,438, or 60 per cent., below the corresponding figure for the previous May. The percentage decline from the total twelve months earlier was greater than that for any of the preceding months of 1948, but it must be remembered that the figures for February and March were affected by the railway strike.

<u>End of Month.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
		<u>1946.</u>			<u>1947.</u>	
October ..	2,814	86	2,900	1,827	80	1,907
November ..	3,570	94	3,664	1,664	70	1,734
December ..	5,971	160	6,139	2,245	69	2,314
		<u>1947.</u>			<u>1948.</u>	
January ..	7,262	228	7,490	3,094	73	3,167
February ..	7,394	198	7,592	5,603	223	5,826
March ..	6,505	184	6,689	6,055	310	6,365
April ..	4,698	149	4,847	2,669	110	2,779
May ..	3,935	151	4,086	1,559	89	1,648
June ..	3,102	129	3,231			
July ..	2,747	113	2,860			
August ..	2,089	97	2,186			
September ..	1,912	87	1,999			

Causes of unemployment are given on the next page for the months of May, 1947, and April and May, 1948, together with the net decrease during the twelve months ended May, 1948, for each cause.

March recorded the highest number on unemployment benefit for the season 1947-48, due to the combined effects of seasonal unemployment and the railway strike; but with seasonal industries re-employing displaced workers and the disappearance of the effects of the strike, the number in May reached the lowest level recorded since Commonwealth unemployment benefit was introduced in October, 1946. All causes during the month showed smaller numbers, the largest decreases being in "Seasonal Work and Weather Conditions" (453), "Establishment Closed, Reduction of Staff" (130), "Casual Work" (125), and "Shortage of Materials" (124).

Compared with figures a year earlier (May, 1947), all causes showed decreases, the largest of which were in "Seasonal Work", "Establishment Closed or Reduction of Staff", and "Casual Work". These causes together accounted for 1,485 of the total reduction of 2,438.

<u>Cause of Unemployment.</u>	<u>May,</u> <u>1947.</u>	<u>April,</u> <u>1948.</u>	<u>May,</u> <u>1948.</u>	<u>Decrease May,</u> <u>1947, to</u> <u>May, 1948.</u>
Medical unfitness for type of work,				
work too heavy .. ..	74	18	13	61
Inefficiency, incompetence ..	96	43	31	65
Establishment closed, reduction of				
staff .. ..	583	330	200	383
Replaced by re-instated servicemen	76	23	18	58
Shortage of materials ..	189	248	124	65
Seasonal work and weather conditions	1,181	910	457	724
Casual work .. ..	650	397	272	378
Discharged or laid-off, other				
reasons .. ..	278	292	172	106
Quitted because work too heavy,				
medically unfit, etc. ..	373	301	209	164
Quitted for other reasons ..	242	117	79	163
Not previously employed ..	344	100	73	271
<u>TOTAL</u> ..	<u>4,086</u>	<u>2,779</u>	<u>1,648</u>	<u>2,438</u>

The following statement shows, for each district, (i) the number of persons drawing benefit in the month of 1946-47 with the highest number, and in the corresponding month of 1947-48 - in some districts this was not the month with the highest unemployment in 1947-48 on account of the disturbance caused to normal seasonal trends by the railway strike, (ii) the numbers in May, 1947, April, 1948, and May, 1948, and (iii) the decrease from May, 1947, to May, 1948. It will be seen that the seasonal peak was generally much lower in 1947-48 than in 1946-47, except in some of the districts where the seasonal peak in 1947-48 coincided with the effects of the railway strike.

<u>District.</u>	<u>(i)</u> <u>Peak Level of</u> <u>Unemployment.</u>			<u>(ii)</u> <u>Month of -</u>		<u>(iii)</u> <u>Decrease</u>	
	<u>Month.</u>	<u>1946-47.</u>	<u>1947-48.</u>	<u>May, April,</u>		<u>May,</u>	<u>May, 1947, to</u>
				<u>1947.</u>	<u>1948.</u>		
Brisbane .. ..	Feb.	2,065	1,003	1,441	588	452	989
Ipswich .. ..	Dec.	190	22	57	42	34	23
Gympie .. ..	Feb.	30	136	27	24	18	9
Maryborough ..	Jan.	221	49	69	92	76	7(a)
Bundaberg .. ..	Jan.	596	57	450	203	195	255
Toowoomba .. ..	Feb.	177	206	118	52	58	60
Warwick .. ..	Dec.	42	32	20	4	2	18
Roma .. ..	Dec.	24	8	6	4	4	2
Charleville .. ..	Dec.	75	34	16	10	10	6
Rockhampton ..	Jan.	1,462	482	351	298	165	186
Emerald .. ..	Jan.	10	6	5	10	8	3(a)
Longreach .. ..	Dec.	117	78	22	14	17	5
Mackay .. ..	Mar.	861	784	648	494	212	336
Ayr .. ..	Feb.	233	356	44	158	56	12(a)
Townsville .. ..	Mar.	616	739	120	256	135	15(a)
Ingham .. ..	Mar.	440	208	23	24	5	18
Innisfail .. ..	Mar.	368	311	256	185	25	231
Cairns .. ..	Mar.	599	416	259	227	45	214
Charters Towers ..	Feb.	182	179	118	61	20	98
Atherton .. ..	Mar.	78	78	27	28	9	18
Hughenden .. ..	Feb.	52	17	9	5	2	7
Total State ..	Feb.	7,592	5,826	4,086	2,779	1,648	2,438

(a) Increase.

The largest decrease during the month (766) took place in the North Coastal Districts, where the re-absorption of seasonally unemployed persons resulted in a decrease of 322 in agriculture, etc.

Compared with April, persons unemployed from all industrial groups showed decreases, the greatest reductions being in agriculture, etc., from 682 to 369, and in building and construction, from 432 to 214.

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ACTING GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN.

BRISBANE.

9th September, 1948.



TABLE 1. - PERSONS RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT, QUEENSLAND.

MAY, 1948.

## DISTRICTS AND CAUSES OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

DISTRICT.	Discharged or Laid-Off.								Quitted.		Not previously employed.	Total.	
	Medical unfitness for particular type of work, work too heavy, etc.	Inefficiency, incompetence.	Establishment closed, reduction of staff, permanent retrenchment.	Replaced by re-instated servicemen, relieving worker only.	Shortage of materials.	Seasonal work and weather conditions.	Casual work.	Discharged or laid-off for other reasons.	Medical unfitness, work too heavy, medical advice.	Quitted for other reasons.		Number.	Per 10,000 population.
Brisbane ..	6	20	78	6	29	14	81	64	90	30	34	452	
Ipswich ..	.	.	1	1	2	.	5	16	6	3	.	34	
Moreton ..	6	20	79	7	31	14	86	80	96	33	34	486	9
Gympie ..	1	1	1	.	2	1	4	4	3	1	.	18	
Maryborough	.	4	3	3	8	15	14	12	8	4	5	76	
Bundaberg	.	1	9	1	6	128	21	2	19	4	4	195	
S.E.Coastal	1	6	13	4	16	144	39	18	30	9	9	289	26
Toowoomba	1	.	11	.	3	6	13	10	7	4	3	58	
Warwick ..	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	2	
Roma ..	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	1	.	1	.	4	
Charleville	.	.	.	.	.	4	4	1	1	.	.	10	
Downs & S.W.	1	.	11	.	3	10	20	12	9	5	3	74	5
Rockhampton	.	.	33	2	46	21	21	17	14	5	6	165	
Emerald ..	.	.	1	.	2	2	.	2	.	.	1	8	
Longreach	.	.	2	1	.	7	3	1	3	.	.	17	
Central ..	.	.	36	3	48	30	24	20	17	5	7	190	19
Mackay ..	2	2	8	3	9	175	64	13	20	10	6	312	
Ayr ..	.	.	4	.	3	22	3	18	1	3	2	56	
Townsville	1	3	30	1	7	21	20	10	23	11	8	135	
Ingham ..	.	.	.	.	.	3	1	.	1	.	.	5	
Innisfail	.	.	2	.	3	12	3	.	2	2	1	25	
Cairns ..	2	.	12	.	1	18	4	1	5	.	2	45	
N.Coastal	5	5	56	4	23	251	95	42	52	26	19	578	38
Charters Towers ..	.	.	3	.	1	7	4	.	5	.	.	20	
Atherton ..	.	.	1	.	1	1	4	.	.	1	1	9	
Hughenden	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	
North-West	.	.	5	.	3	8	8	.	5	1	1	31	7
TOTAL STATE	13	31	200	18	124	457	272	172	209	79	73	1,648	15

TABLE 2. - PERSONS RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT, QUEENSLAND.

MAY, 1948.

## DISTRICTS AND INDUSTRIES.

DISTRICT.	Industry in Which Last Engaged.														TOTAL.
	Agricultural, Pastoral, and Dairying.	Other Primary (including Mining).	Engineering.	Food and Drink.	Other Factories.	Building and Construction.	Shipping and Wharf Work.	Transport.	Wholesale.	Retail.	Previously Employed by Australian or Allied Services.	Personal and Domestic Service.	Discharged Servicemen.	Other Industries.	
Brisbane ..	17	7	39	47	43	34	16	46	31	30	36	36	6	64	452
Ipswich ..	.	12	2	2	3	7	.	4	.	1	2	1	.	.	34
Moreton ..	17	19	41	49	46	41	16	50	31	31	38	37	6	64	486
Gympie ..	1	1	1	1	5	2	.	2	.	4	.	.	.	1	18
Maryborough	17	2	3	8	7	15	5	6	2	3	1	2	2	3	76
Bundaberg	105	4	3	41	8	14	.	1	.	5	.	6	2	6	195
S.E.Coastal	123	7	7	50	20	31	5	9	2	12	1	8	4	10	289
Toowoomba	10	2	4	7	1	6	.	6	5	4	2	8	1	2	58
Warwick ..	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2
Roma ..	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	2	.	.	4
Charleville	9	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	10
Downs & S.W.	19	2	4	7	1	9	.	7	5	4	2	11	1	2	74
Rockhampton	17	21	7	54	8	30	3	7	5	3	.	6	.	4	165
Emerald ..	1	2	.	1	.	.	.	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	8
Longreach	6	2	1	.	1	1	.	1	.	.	.	4	.	1	17
Central ..	24	25	8	55	9	31	3	10	5	5	.	10	.	5	190
Mackay ..	133	11	5	69	10	37	6	4	7	7	.	14	.	9	312
Ayr ..	18	15	.	9	3	4	.	2	.	1	.	3	.	1	56
Townsville	17	5	5	18	6	36	1	12	8	2	9	5	2	9	135
Ingham ..	1	.	.	2	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5
Innisfail	4	3	.	7	2	3	.	.	.	2	1	2	.	1	25
Cairns ..	10	1	1	11	3	10	4	2	.	2	.	1	.	.	45
N.Coastal	183	35	11	116	24	92	11	20	15	14	10	25	2	20	578
Charters Towers ..	2	1	.	7	.	6	.	.	.	2	1	.	.	1	20
Atherton ..	1	3	.	.	1	3	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	9
Hughenden	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	2
North-West	3	4	.	7	1	10	.	.	.	3	2	.	.	1	31
TOTAL STATE	369	92	71	284	101	214	35	96	58	69	53	91	13	102	1,648



